



## IDAHO CROP & LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS' NEWS

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC

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May 22, 2006 FOR SURVEY RESPONDENTS

*Dear Respondent:*

*This issue of the Idaho Crop and Livestock Producers' News covers the results of the April Farm Labor Survey. Wage rates and number of hired workers were reported for the U.S., Region and selected States.*

*This release is sent to survey participants in appreciation for their time spent responding to the survey. Thank you for reporting and your continued support.*

*Sincerely,*

*William R. Meyer  
Director*

### April Farm Labor

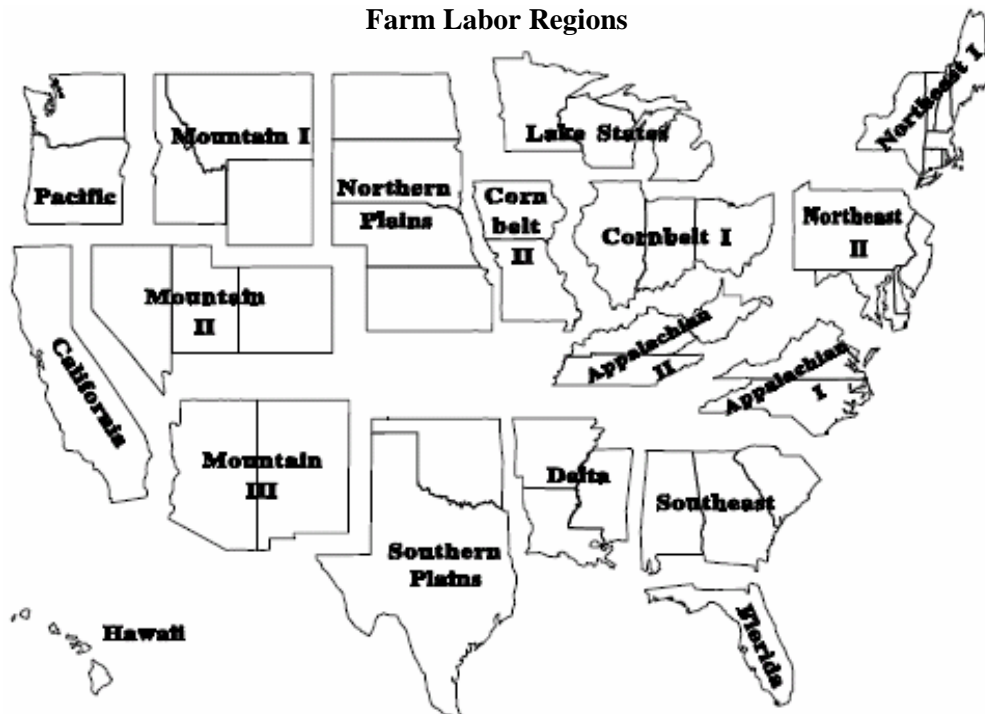
For the Mountain I Region of the U.S. (Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming), there were 23,000 hired workers on farms and ranches during the week of April 9-15, 2006, down 1,000 from a year ago. Hired workers worked an average of 44.1 hours during the survey week at an average wage of \$9.22 per hour, up 79 cents from last year.

There were 956,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 9-15, 2006, down 4 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 718,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 238,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.79 per hour during the April 2006 reference week, up 44 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.96 per hour, up 40 cents from last April, while livestock workers earned \$9.30 per hour compared with \$9.14 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.07 per hour, was up 35 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 40.8 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 2 percent from a year ago.

**Farm Labor Regions**



**A THANK YOU TO ALL IDAHO FARM AND RANCH OPERATORS**

*Your cooperation in completing agricultural surveys from this office is greatly **APPRECIATED**. Accurate, useful estimates are vital in decision making. All estimates derived from these surveys, along with other pertinent agricultural data, are published in our regular series of releases. All NASS reports are available free of charge on the worldwide Internet. For access, connect to the Internet and go to the NASS Home Page at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>. If you have any questions or require additional information, you may reach us toll free at 1-800-691-9987.*

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